

ABSTRACT

The present invention combines IP multicasting mechanisms with SCSI protocols to achieve a more efficient data replication or data mirroring scheme. The combination of the IP multicast mechanism with the mapping of virtual unit logical number to real logical unit numbers, combined with the use of SCSI response frames, ensures the integrity of multicasted data. By use of the SCSI protocol over the TCP/IP according to the present invention, there is no further need to transfer multiple copies of the same data on the same communication link, and the routing logic may be removed from initiator and targets to IP routers.

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